

1998 LOST LANDMARKS

When the qualities and associated integrity for which a National Historic Landmark was designated are damaged or destroyed to the point that the Landmark can no longer “tell its story,” then the National Park Service recommends it to the Secretary of the Interior for dedesignation. Two Landmarks were dedesignated in March 1999:

Dedesignated

Roosevelt Dam, Gila County, Arizona

Roosevelt Dam was the first major public works project completed under the National Reclamation Act and was an outstanding feat of engineering. A massive reinforced concrete addition to the top and face of the dam has destroyed its historic appearance irrevocably. (Owned by Bureau of Reclamation)

Rock Magnetism Laboratory, Menlo Park, California

Research carried out in this laboratory led to the revolutionary development of the theory of plate tectonics. The laboratory has been demolished and replaced with new facilities. (Owned by the U.S. Geological Survey and General Services Administration)

Dedesignation Under Consideration

The following National Historic Landmarks have so lost their integrity that the National Park Service is considering recommending that the Secretary of the Interior dedesignate them:

Research Cave, Callaway County, Missouri

This cave, which provided extensive information on the prehistoric civilizations of the Midwest, has been irrevocably looted and vandalized. (Privately owned)

USS Inaugural, St. Louis, Missouri

This World War II minesweeper sank in the 1993 floods. It does not appear possible to raise and repair the ship. (Privately owned)

Fort Ruby, White Pine County, Nevada

At the onset of the Civil War, Fort Ruby was a critical Union connection to the West. Deterioration due to lack of maintenance and damaging uses by its previous owner, and to fire have destroyed this Landmark. (Owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Hotel Breakers, Sandusky, Ohio

The Breakers is large resort hotel constructed during the Victorian-Edwardian era. Recent changes to the property include demolition of two historic wings and extensive alterations to the character of the remaining sections of the hotel. (Privately owned)

Bomberger's Distillery, Schaefferstown, Pennsylvania

Founded in 1753, Bomberger's is the nation's oldest distillery. This Landmark has suffered severe deterioration due to lack of maintenance; its owner is dismantling it. (Privately owned)